

Amendments to the Drawings

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(d)(1), attached hereto are three annotated sheets depicting changes made to drawing Figures 1-4. The attached Figures 1-4 have been amended to add descriptive labels to illustrated elements of the invention.

Also attached hereto are three replacement sheets of drawings, incorporating the changes made to Figures 1-4, which replace the drawing sheets originally submitted with the application.

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

The written description portion of the specification, claims 1 and 3-10, the abstract of the disclosure, and the drawings have been amended. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1 and 3-10 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 is independent. The objections and rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The specification has been editorially amended for conformance with 37 CFR § 1.77(c), for consistency, and to correct any informalities. The abstract has been editorially amended for conformance with 37 CFR § 1.72(b). The drawing figures have been amended as described above in the "Amendments to the Drawings" section. The claims have been amended to overcome each ground of objection and rejection, and in general, to more fully comply with U.S. practice. Entry of each of the amendments is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Amin and Mashiko

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,266,371 to Amin et al. (hereinafter "Amin") in view of U.S. Patent Application Pub. No.

2001/0029190 of Mashiko. The examiner acknowledges that Amin does not teach that the auxiliary memory is associated with the charger, that the charger is provided with an initialization means connected to the read and write member, and that the initialization means is arranged to detect a charging of the power source and produce an initialization signal after detection of such a charging (Office Action page 5).

The rejection of claims 1-10 under § 103(a) based on Amin and Mashiko is respectfully deemed to be obviated. For at least the following reasons, the combined disclosures of Amin and Mashiko would not have rendered obvious Applicants' presently claimed invention.

First, the combined disclosures of Amin and Mashiko do not teach all of Applicants' presently claimed features. As indicated above, the examiner acknowledges that Amin does not teach the auxiliary memory associated with the charger, the charger being provided with initialization means connected to the read and write member and arranged to detect a charging of the power source and produce an initialization signal after detection of such a charging.

And, for at least the following reasons, the disclosure of Mashiko does not rectify the acknowledged deficiencies of Amin. In the system according to Mashiko, it is required that both the portable information equipment 1 and the battery charger 10 are equipped with a micro controller 2 (respectively, 11 or 16). For

operation of the system according to Mashiko it is required that both micro controllers 2 and 11 operate together (see paragraphs 55, 56, 78, 79, 105, and 116). The micro controller 11 (respectively 16) is essentially a slave of micro controller 2. Indeed, as is described in paragraph 54, the micro controller 11 can only transmit and receive a signal to/from the micro controller 2 in the portable information equipment 1.

According to Mashiko (see paragraph 56), the charging of the battery is detected by detecting the point in time at which information transmission between the micro controllers 2 and 11 becomes possible. As shown in Mashiko's Figure 2 and described in the accompanying description (paragraphs 57-65), this information transmission starts with recognition of the ID information (step S11) registered in the ID registration portion 30 of equipment 1. Only after recognition that the ID information is correct (step S12; paragraph 58) and after establishing that the correct password is entered (step S14; paragraph 60), can the information transmission then begin (steps S17 to S19). So, according to Mashiko, the initialization means are present in the equipment 1 and not in the charger 10 since the micro controller 2 must start with reading the ID registration portion.

According to Applicants' claimed invention, however, the initialization means are in the charger and not in the mobile telephone (i.e., the claimed feature of "said charger being provided with initialization means"). Also, according to

Applicants' claimed invention, it is the initialization means which are arranged to detect a charging of the power source and produce an initialization signal after detection of the charging. Therefore, the presently claimed invention is clearly different from Mashiko in that the initialization takes place at the charger and not at the mobile telephone.

Furthermore, there is simply no teaching in Amin and Mashiko that would have led one to select the references and combine them in a way that would produce the invention defined by any of Applicants' pending claims. Applicants submit that Mashiko actually teaches away from a solution as proposed by the present invention by imposing two micro controllers and having the micro controller in the battery charger operate as a slave.

Applicants also note that in the case of loss of the telephone (see instant specification page 11, lines 20-25), which is one of the applications for which the assembly according to the present invention can be used, the solution of Mashiko simply would not work. Indeed, if the mobile telephone were to be lost, it would not be possible to apply step S11 of Mashiko, because the ID registration portion would be empty, thereby immediately ending (step S12) the information transfer.

Accordingly, the combined disclosures of Amin and Mashiko would not have rendered obvious the invention defined by Applicants' instant claim 1. Claims 3-10 are allowable because they depend from claim 1, and for the subject matter recited therein.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) - Amin and Hicks

Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amin in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,493,552 to Hicks.

The rejection of claim 6 under § 103(a) based on Amin and Hicks is also respectfully deemed to be obviated. Claim 6 depends directly from claim 1. For all of the reasons explained above in response to the rejection of claims 1-10 under § 103(a) based on Amin and Mashiko, claim 1 is allowable. Claim 6, therefore, is also allowable.

Furthermore, regardless of what Hicks may disclose with regard to an initialization means, the disclosure of Hicks does not rectify any of the above-described deficiencies of Amin. The initialization means of Hicks is in no way linked to the charging of the power source; instead, it simply counts the attempts to register to a network. That is not Applicants' claimed invention.

Accordingly, the combined disclosures of Amin and Hicks would not have rendered obvious the invention defined by Applicants' claim 6.

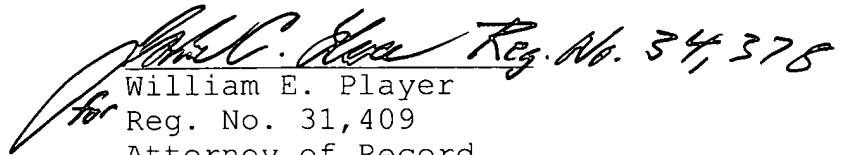
In view of the foregoing, this application is now in condition for allowance. If the examiner believes that an

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interview might expedite prosecution, the examiner is invited to
contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Annotated Sheet

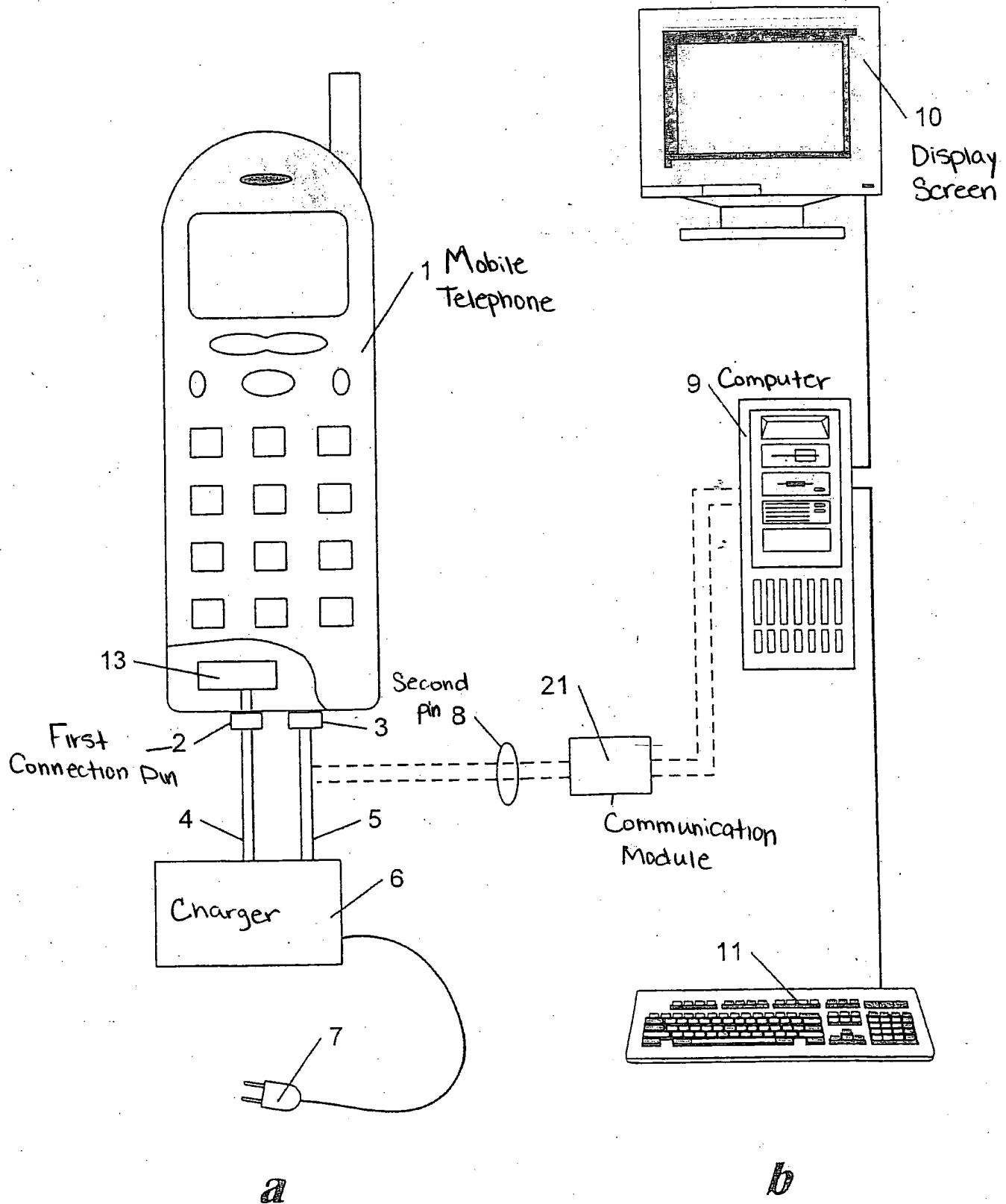


Fig. 1

Annotated Sheet

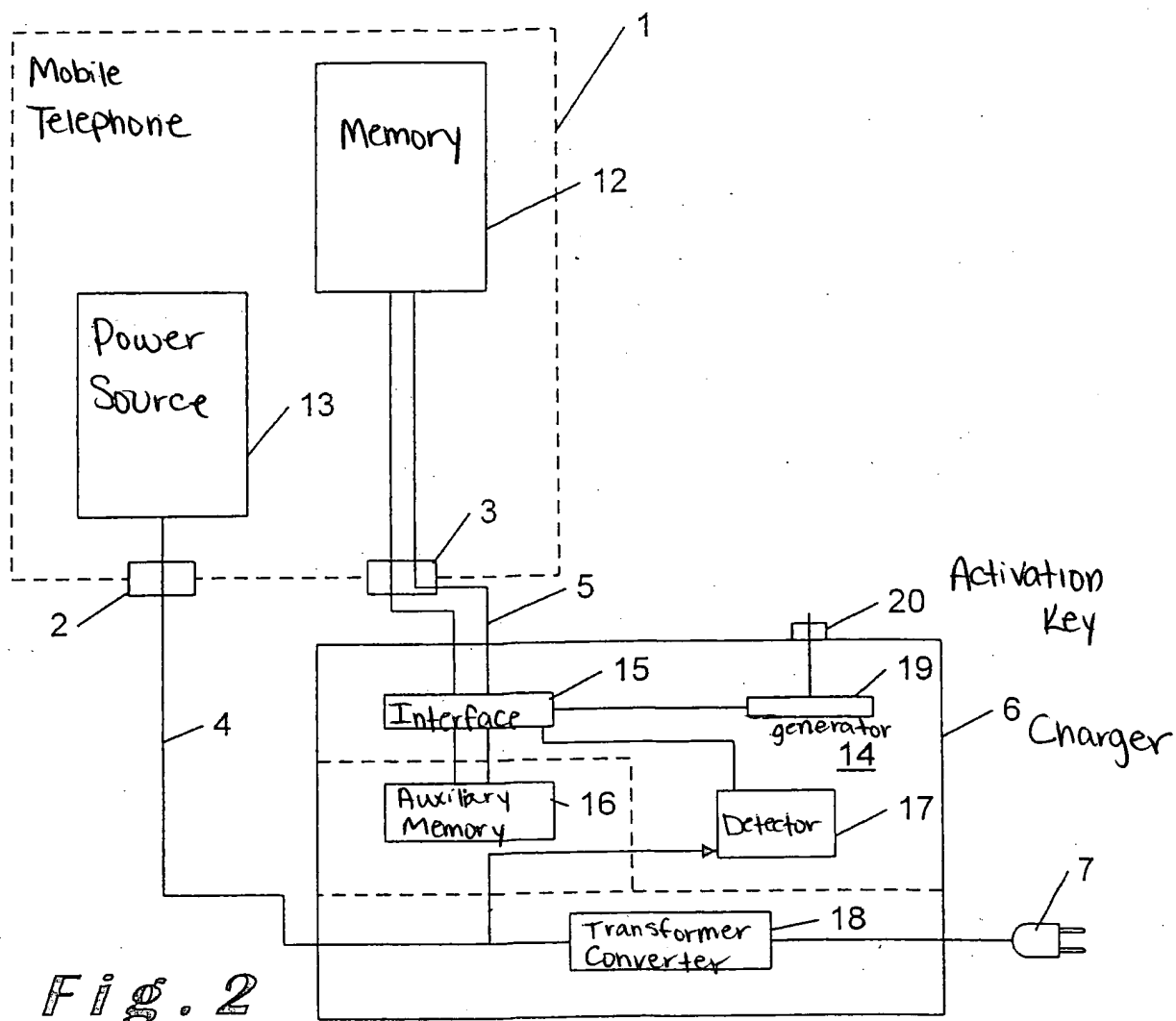


Fig. 2

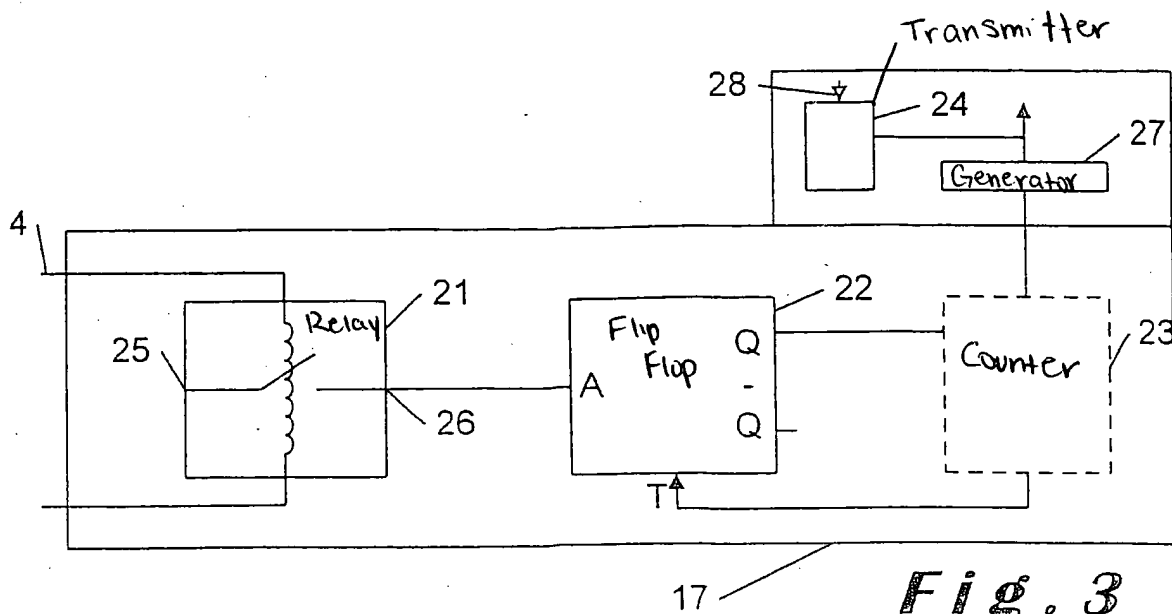


Fig. 3

Annotated Sheet

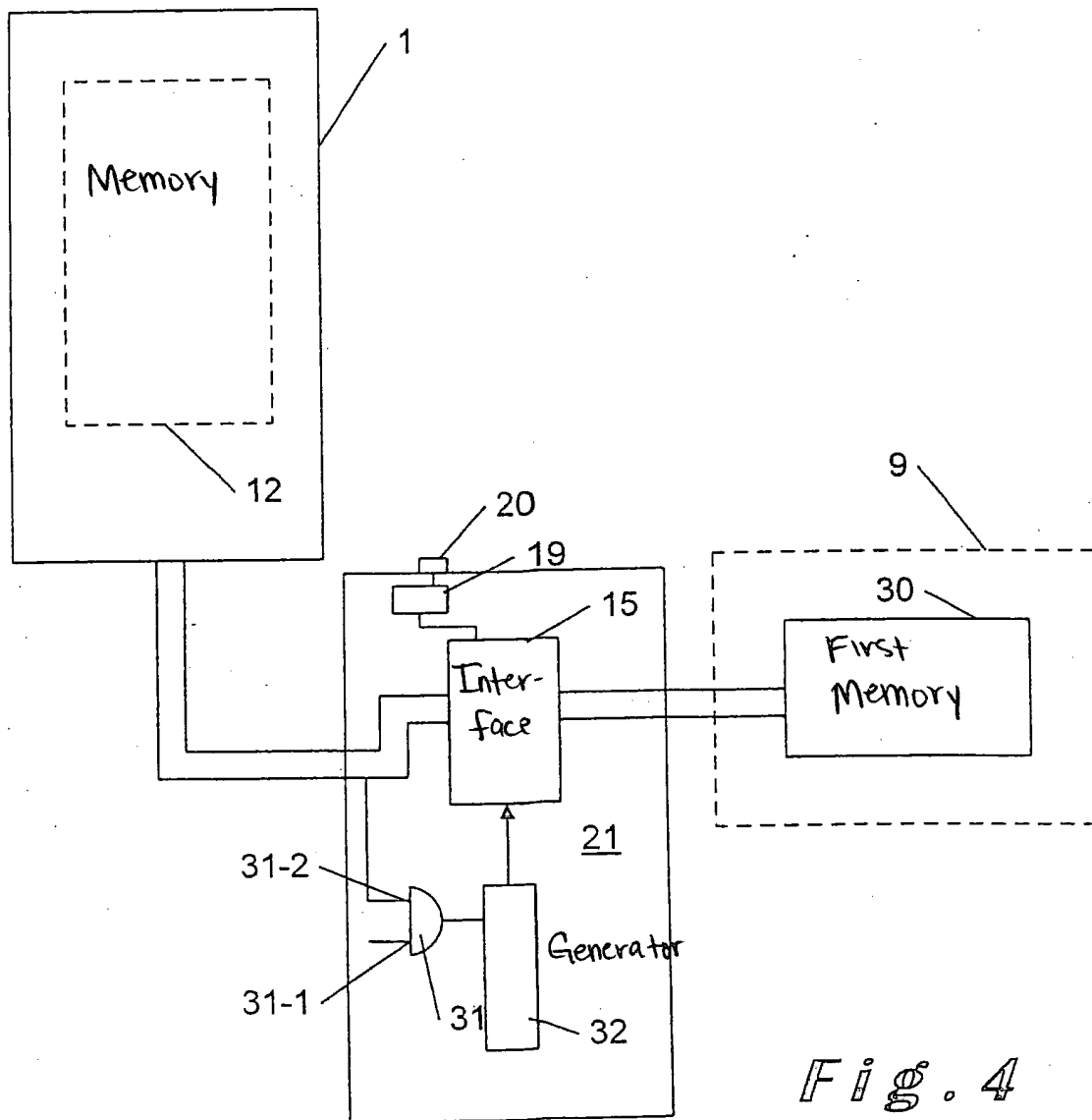


Fig. 4